

# CONGRESSIONAL UNION ASSERTS NEW POWER

**Washington Parade Is the First Step in Young Organization's Plan to Act in Democratic Senatorial Campaigns.**

By ELEANOR BOOTH SUMMONS.

**H**ERETOFORE if woman had any part in the game on the political chessboard at Washington it has been as the indirect influence diverting by counsel or cajolery the masculine hands that moved the pieces. Now a woman sits at the board, having challenged the Democratic party to a game. Miss Alice Paul ordering a great party to put up its tenure of office as stakes against the enfranchisement of the women of the country is a sight that has made a good many people sit up and take notice.

Perhaps it isn't fair to the many hundreds of women who form the Congressional Union to say that Miss Paul is doing it. They are all doing it. But in the suffrage movement, as in everything else, personalities strike the imagination. People talk of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, not of their helpers and followers. And when the great procession of white-clad women marches the length of Pennsylvania ave. to the National Capitol next Saturday and delegates from every Congressional district in the Union pass through the doors and present to Congress demands for the freedom of woman, Alice Paul, little figure though she is physically, will loom pretty large.

A Politician, Not a Chatterer.

"How is it," a Western visitor to Washington asked a newspaper man in that city recently, "how is it that Alice Paul, a little, frail woman, with a voice that can't make itself heard in a fair-sized hall, with—she says it herself—no charm, how is it that she is playing off Congressmen against one another and stirring things up, as she seems to be doing?"

"Well," said the newspaper man, "Alice Paul, you see—she's a politician."

The proof of the pudding is in the eating. How is the political plan of the Congressional Union—for in justice to Miss Lucy Burns, Miss Paul's right hand assistant, and the rest of that group of women, it can't be called Miss Paul's plan—how is it going to work out? It seems to be impressing a good many people. In the three months since Miss Paul announced it and she and Mrs. Crystal Eastman Benedict and Mrs. Emma Smith Devoe and other officers of the Union went forth through the states, North and South and East and West, to beat up recruits for the May 2 nation-wide demonstration that was a part of the plan, many well known women have joined the Union.

Influential Women Join.

Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, who has kept free of suffrage organizations before—save the International Alliance—has just become a member. Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, head of the Chicago school system, and Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett, president of the National Florence Crittenden Mission and national leader of the International Council of Women, are recent members.

In its Washington rolls the Union counts any number of Congressmen's wives. Mrs. Kent, wife of the Representative from California; Mrs. Mendell, wife of the Representative from Wyoming; Mrs. Sutherland, wife of the Senator from Utah; Mrs. Stone, wife of the Representative from Illinois; Mrs. Prouty, wife of the Representative from Iowa, are a few. Cabinet women are working with the Congressional Union, too—Mrs. Lane, wife of the Secretary of the Interior, and Mrs. Burleson, wife of the Postmaster General.

Mrs. Blatch Indorses Union.

Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch, president of the Women's Political Union, after warily watching the Congressional Union through its comparative brief life, came out for it last night at Carnegie Hall and brought her organization with her. Miss Paul and Miss Burns were speakers on the programme of the Women's Political Union meeting there, and in a resolution the Women's Political Union indorsed the Bristow-Mondell amendment which the Congressional Union is working night and day to forward in Congress.

Mrs. Blatch discreetly says that the Women's Political Union doesn't wish to take sides between the Congressional Union and the National Woman's Suffrage Association, and therefore indorses the Bristow-Mondell amendment, which is just the old amendment that Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton urged on Congress back in 1869, and which, she says, the National must naturally approve.

Naturally it must; but just after the defeat of that amendment—known then as the Chamberlain amendment—in the Senate March 19, Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett, executive secretary of the National, sent out letters to the state suffrage presidents, telling them it was dead, and that the substitute amendment introduced by Senator Shafroth, of Colorado, as everybody knows, the dead amendment came to life, reintroduced as the Bristow amendment, and on April 7 was favorably reported out of committee—the Woman Suffrage Committee of

the Senate. But the Shafroth amendment was the one the National urged suffragists throughout the country to indorse at the demonstrations yesterday. It, too, has been reported



MRS. CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN  
MEMBER CONGRESSIONAL UNION

favorably out of committee.

The Women's Political Union will also send a large delegation, in a special car, to Washington to join in the demonstration on May 9.

"Watchful Waiting."

What will that demonstration effect? What did the demonstration yesterday effect? Whenever Miss Paul or Miss Burns or any of the executive committee of the Congressional Union were asked if they were making plans to cut down the Democratic majority in the Senate by defeating candidates in the suffrage states, according to their announced procedure in the event of Congress dissolving without the passage of the suffrage amendment, they would say:

"Wait; wait till after May 9. We are waiting to see what May 2 and May 9 do to Congress."

This is how Mrs. Mary Beard, wife of Professor Charles Beard, of Columbia University and an active member of the union's executive board, explains it:

"These men at Washington are awfully sensitive. In matters concerning trust legislation, all kinds of legislation, they are always watching to get the pulse of the country. Women are climbing to the position of constituents. We are voting in ten states now. Illinois gave us a great political boost. We are a political factor, and when these Congressmen receive the message from all the country over, from men and women in every Congressional district, bidding them pass the amendment we believe it will have a great effect upon them."

Menace of Woman Voter.

"If the Democrats don't heed our bidding, it will be time to play our next card, and that card is the women voters. Whether the women voters can be induced to forget party and rally to help their sisters in other states to secure the freedom they have is somewhat problematical. We think they can. And the plan is simple. The Democratic majority in the Senate is only seven. Senators are to be elected next fall in seven suffrage states. We need only defeat four Democratic candidates and that party's majority is overthrown."

"Our critics in the National Woman Suffrage Association are so silly. They say our policy is 'militant,' that we are mad to declare war on a party when we have many friends in that party. They appear to think we're going gunning directly after Senator Thomas, of Colorado, for instance, who is chairman of the Woman Suffrage Committee and is absolutely 'straight goods.' We're not. There are Democrats from the suffrage states in the Senate who aren't our true friends, and we shall aim at these, if gunning becomes advisable."

Union's Militant Antecedents.

Militant, however, the National holds the Congressional Union to be. May be it is only natural that Miss Paul should be militant, when she served her suffrage novitiate under Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst in England and was jailed, went on the hunger strike, and was forcibly fed, receiving in the process injuries which are seen to-day in the frequent illnesses that attack her.

When, a year ago last January, she and Miss Burns and two or three others were appointed by the national association a Congressional committee, and went to Washington and opened headquarters in the shabby little shop at 1420 F st., N. W., things ran smoothly enough. Then came the news that Miss Paul had formed an auxiliary, calling it the Congressional Union; and then the final break at the national convention last December, when Miss Paul's report, with its record of parades and demonstrations, of



MISS ALICE PAUL, PRESIDENT  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE CONGRESSIONAL UNION



MRS. MEDILL MCCORMICK,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL  
COMMITTEE, NATIONAL WOMAN'S  
SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION



MISS ELSIE HILL  
MEMBER EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE OF THE  
CONGRESSIONAL UNION



MISS LUCY BURNS  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
CONGRESSIONAL UNION



MRS. CRYSTAL EASTMAN BENEDICT  
EXEC COM CONG UNION



MISS DORIS STEVENS  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
CONGRESSIONAL UNION



MRS. LAWRENCE LEWIS OF PHILA  
EXECUTIVE COM. CONG. UNION

work done and money gathered in other states, caused Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt to arise and ask:

"To whom do we owe allegiance? Which is the national organization, that of which Dr. Anna Howard Shaw is president or its child, the Congressional Union?"

Miss Paul Holds Fast.

One of the funny things of that exciting convention was the sight of Miss Paul, sitting on the platform like a scolded but determined child, clinging to what she considered her right not to report to the national treasurer, Mrs. Stanley McCormick, the funds the Congressional Union had gathered.

That is over now, and the "National" is jogging along with a brand new Congressional committee, Mrs. Medill McCormick at its head, exercising the political wisdom she learned in association with her father, Senator Hanna. The Shafroth amendment is hailed

by Mrs. McCormick and the "National" as a great piece of political wisdom. Briefly, it provides that when 8 per cent of the electorate of a state sign a petition calling for a state referendum on woman suffrage, the referendum shall be had.

"This," Mrs. Antoinette Funk, of Illinois, member of the Congressional committee, said yesterday in a speech, "can never collide with that great stumbling block, states' rights. The prejudice of the Congressmen from states where the negro vote predominates will down the other amendment. But they can't object to this."

"And the beautiful thing about it,"

## ARE WOMEN PEOPLE?

By ALICE DUER MILLER

### NOTHING TO DO WITH WAR.

The most dangerous position in war, apparently, is that of the non-combatant.

Out of forty-five people killed in one day's battle in Colorado thirty were women and children.

In the Boer war twenty thousand women and children died in the concentration camps—twice the number of men who fell in action in both armies together.

### NEITHER HERE NOR THERE.

"Woman's place," said Senator Martine, "is at the bedside."

Yet when Florence Nightingale first attempted to organize her corps of trained nurses it was asked how she could "be guilty of so unwomanly an act, such an outrage upon the modesty of her sex as to introduce women into hospitals where common soldiers lay ill and dying."

"Indelicate" was once the word; then "unsexed" took its place. And now "unfeminine's" the term that feminists must face.

But yet in spite of all, the world moves on, and strange to say, What was unsexed in '48 is Woman's Sphere to-day.

F. G.

### PATRIOTISM.

The National Surety Company has announced that "the standing of none of its employees would be impaired if they volunteered for service in Mexico."

But the New York Board of Education dismisses teachers who are absent for the purpose of bearing a child.

### COPY-CATS!

The good marksmanship of the U. S. mine ship San Francisco has been generally commended. Her guns broke every window in succession of the Naval College in Vera Cruz.

### DO YOU KNOW?

That almost as many men as girls worked in the Triangle factory?

That 135 girls were burnt to death there?

That no men were burnt?

That only forty men have been burnt in factory fires in this state during the last five years?

That it is easier for a man to escape from a fire than for a woman?

That our fire laws are strict enough to protect men, but not to protect women?

That our laws are made and administered by men?

### THE FAVORED SEX AND INDIRECT INFLUENCE.

In 1835 a petition of women to Congress asking for the abolition of the slave trade was laid on the table by a vote of 180 to 31.

In February, 1914, out of thirty-six petitions presented to Congress in two days, all but three were referred to appropriate committees. These three laid on the table were petitions of women asking for the vote.

### OUR MARKET LETTER.

In 1803 a man in England sold his wife for a guinea, but in 1808 another could only get sixpence and a quid of tobacco for his.

In view of the unsettled state of the market, we doubt if it is now possible to dispose of these holdings at any price.

### WHY WE OPPOSE POCKETS FOR WOMEN.

- 1.—Because pockets are not a natural right.
- 2.—Because the great majority of women do not want pockets. If they did, they would have them.
- 3.—Because whenever women have had pockets they have not used them.
- 4.—Because women are expected to carry enough things as it is without the additional burden of pockets.
- 5.—Because it would make dissension between husband and wife as to whose pockets were to be filled.
- 6.—Because it would destroy man's chivalry toward woman if he did not have to carry all her things in his pockets.
- 7.—Because men are men and women are women. We must not fly in the face of nature.
- 8.—Because pockets have been used by men to carry tobacco, pipes, whiskey flasks, chewing gum and compromising letters. We see no reason to suppose that women would use them more wisely.

### THEIR STRENGTH IS AS THE STRENGTH OF TEN.

The Hon. Mr. Heflin, of Alabama, says that every good woman controls somebody's vote as it is.

Yes, it is only by goodness, as the ward politicians tell us, that men's votes are controlled.

### INDEFENSIBLE DEFINITION NO. 1.

"Mother, what is a feminist?"

"A feminist, my daughter,

Is any woman now who cares

To think about her own affairs

As men don't think she oughter."

**Barnard's Poets Warble This Spring to Beguile Millionaires and Others Into Emptying Purses at the Oriental Fair.**

"WHEN May's first buds perfume the balmy air,  
Come, student, parent,  
teacher, millionaire:  
Enjoy yourselves and help the Build-

ored tents which the girls are going to manufacture themselves will be scattered over the lawn at picturesque intervals, while swift steeds and weird animals of Araby will "dot the plains."

The fun will begin with a circus parade from the main building, at Broadway and 119th st. This will be led by a "Turkish band," in costume, attended by an organ grinder with a real monkey. The same adjective cannot, unfortunately, be applied to the other animals which will grace the occasion. The elephants will be strictly home talent, recruited from the ranks of the senior class, encased two by two in elephant hides of gray canvas. The camels, too, will be constructed of girls.

The Bareback Rider and Her Steed.

A small pony will be brought from the country home of one of the girls and rented out to the fair-goers at 10 cents a ride. A daring junior, clad in stiff pink skirts and spangled jacket, will perform thrilling bareback stunts, with the aid of a peaceful old nag which one of the city's riding schools has furnished for the occasion. There will be chariot races, clowns, baseball teams touring the East and fortune tellers.

All this is on the campus for the pleasure of the young and the loosening up of their purses. On the colonnade which fronts the main building there will be quiet and tea for "parents, etcetera," as Miss Margaret Peck, chairman of the committee, designates them. In the theatre will be a vaudeville performance of the best of the college talent, and in the long drawing rooms, hitherto kept sacred to trustees' meetings, the profane feet of the Columbia sophomore will tango.

Electric Lights, Songs and Millionaires.

The fun will continue into the night, for the Edison company has manifested its approval of the higher education of women by donating yards of red and blue electric light bulbs with which the "Quad" will be gay after dark. Night will therefore offer no protection to the wily millionaire who may venture forth for a breath of air when he supposes those girls are safe at home and quiet at last, for he still will hear the voices singing over the top of the fence:

"We want a building.  
We want a building.  
We want it very much.  
We want it very much.  
Oh, won't some kind millionaire  
going by  
Give us some money to hush up our cry  
To get us a building?"

## WORKERS'DRAMA

**To Be Enacted by Six Hundred Girls.**

"The Romance of Work," a pageant written by Miss Mary Porter Beegle, director of physical instruction at Barnard College, with music written and arranged by William Kraft, will be presented by members of the New York City Workers' Women's Club at the 6th Regiment armory, Lexington ave. and 25th st., Friday night, May 15.

Six hundred working girls in costume will take part in the series of dances and spectacles which Miss Beegle has conceived. The event will be held in connection with the annual convention of the National League of Women Workers, an organization composed of 120 clubs in the Eastern and Middle States with a membership of more than 12,000. Of the New York branch of the society Miss Virginia Potter is president.

Every proper pageant is conceived and actually carried out for a definite purpose, and so it is with the one in which the six hundred girls, who have been drilling industriously for more than a month, will participate.

"This pageant," Miss Beegle explained to a reporter for The Tribune, "will illustrate the evolution of woman's work. The various scenes in which it will be presented will show its past development, the work of women at the present day, and will conclude with a vision of woman's future in the field of labor."

The purely domestic phase of the Colonial household will be set forth in the second scene. A minstrel, in which 112 girls take part, is danced in the interlude, with all the traditional dignity and conventionality of the time.

The modern industrial period, which comes next, will be presented in realistic manner. Assisting the cast of men, women and children in their pantomime and dances will be a moving picture machine, which will flash upon a screen scenes taken in factories, stores, offices and other places of industry, showing the girl of to-day at her work.

Miss Beegle hopes her work will exert some lasting influence for the betterment of women workers, and at this point her first thrust will be made.

"This modern industrial period," she declared, "will show the work taken out of the home, as the first episode depicted, and given over to the community, with men and women in pursuit of it. The equality of the division of labor will be clearly set forth. The idle women, with little or nothing to do, and the overworked working girls will figure side by side in this part of the pageant."

The dates of the convention are May 14 to 17.